MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI:
206. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 66,595 under Demand VII by Re. 1

MR. N. E. VARUGHESE:
207. To reduce the total allotment of Rs. 66,595 under Demand VII by Re. 1

Demand VII. Ayurveda for Rs. 66,595 less Re. 1 was then put to the vote of the House and carried.

The House rose for lunch at 1-30 P. M.

The Assembly met again at 2-15.

DEMAND VIII—PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 2,52,318 under Demand VIII-Public Health and Sanitation.

The following motion was not moved:

Motion 208.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: *To omit the allotment of rupees 3,000 for honorarium to the Assistant Director.*

Motion 209.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I beg to make the following motion.

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,504 for establishment by Rs. 100".

The object of the motion is "to urge upon the attention of Government the need of immediate provision for good drinking water in areas where it is not available now."

Sir, I admit that I feel a tinge of shame in being called upon to press for such an obvious necessity. I am quite sure that nobody on the Government Benches would oppose the demand for such necessaries of life. Yet the fact remains that in various parts of Travancore this wide-spread want awaits supply. This is a longstanding complaint. In the modern history of Travancore, if I should trace the course of this long felt want, I may begin with the Coronation of His Highness Sri Mulam Tirunal of revered memory, who, on the occasion of His Highness' Coronation promised three boons to His Highness's subjects, among which good drinking water merits distinct and prominent mention. His Highness's Proclamation in this respect was to the effect that wells would be sunk wheresoever it was necessary to provide good drinking water. Subsequently, I understand that a provision used to be made in the P. W. D. Budget annually to the extent of Rs. 5,000 for the purpose of sinking wells. For reasons best known to themselves, the P. W. D. people however, did not seriously keep to the course laid down for them. Coming to later years, I understand from my friend Mr. Asan and some other members here, that, in the previous Legislative Council resolution was passed urging the need of drinking water in centres where it is not available. I myself recollect, at a still earlier stage, one member in the previous Council urging the need of drinking water on the western side of the Kayankulam lake, *i. e.*, the belt between that lake and the Arabian Sea, Now

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai.

the matter has again been brought to the attention of the representatives of the people and to me particularly during the election period. One of the conditions on which the people of Thottapalli pledged their support to me was, that I should agitate for good drinking water. That is one of my election pledges. I brought this matter to the notice of Government during the general discussion on the budget and I was glad to find that a number of gentlemen on this side of the House also were of the same opinion as myself. The Sanitary and the Public Health Departments are working a good deal, as they say, to eradicate hookworm, filariasis, and kindred troubles from which people are suffering in some parts of the State. I really fail to understand how their labours would bear fruit so long as they leave open the doors for the introduction of the filarial germs into the human system through drinking water. The water at Thottapalli and other tracts bordering on the Kayankulam lake or other lakes like the Vembanad, is perceptibly brackish and impure throughout the year. It is indeed a suffering in silence which the people all through endure in helpless resignation. Well, apart from the brackishness, probably on examination, the water of the Kayankulam lake may disclose the existence of various undesirable microbes and bacteria in it. Thus while the Public Health Department is trying to drive out the filarial germs through one orifice of the body, they are allowing it to be introduced through the other. This certainly is a very vicious circle and shows the purposeless pursuits of the department. The department, at any rate, should be foremost to combat the spread of filarial infection. I understand that the trouble arises mainly because of the fact that the sanitation and the Health Department has very little control over the programme for well-sinking. Somehow or other the P. W. D has been entrusted with this business; they are the last people to realise the importance or the seriousness of the provision in this respect. I would therefore suggest the desirability of removing this particular subject from the control of the P. W. D. to that of the amalgamated Public Health Department. Unless that is done, there may not be sufficient justification for us to vent our fury upon the Public Health Department. We are directly concerned with the Public Health Department in this respect. But now that Department may probably excuse itself by saying that its relation with the subject is indirect, the P. W. D. being directly concerned in the matter.

Much more is the importance of the question and it has to be considered in its sanitary and hygienic aspects. With these observations Sir, I have very great pleasure in recommending the acceptance of the motion by the House.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Sir, I fully support the motion moved by my friend Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai. The want of good drinking water is felt acutely in Nanjinad. Before I come to that, I have to speak a few words. The Medical profession classifies all epidemic diseases into preventible, curable and fatal.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Of course, under modern conditions, three corresponding professions are also in existence. The Public Health and Sanitary Department, undertakes to prevent, the Medical Department undertakes to cure and the undertaker undertakes the rest. In Nanjinad Sir, the undertaker is known as the *Pronopakari*-the life saviour. He is a man who really helps in life, and he is also a medicine man. He prevents and cures and he does the rest also. An illustrious person once asked the medical profession a question "why cannot preventible diseases be prevented" That is as good as asking the legal profession, why cannot law's delays be remedied. The profession will disappear. In the pamphlet issued by the Honorary Advisor on Public Health on Cholera we find this —

"In spite of all its horrors, cholera is a preventible disease".

The question then is, why the department does not prevent it. The answer is given in the same pamphlet. "Further treatment will have to be done with the advice and assistance of a Medical Officer." The Medical Department will disappear if the Health Department prevents it. Between them both, in the end, they attribute it to bad drinking water. This is what both the Health Department and Medical Department combined says. There is not a single village in Nanjinad, and, I am not exaggerating it, which has an uncontaminated supply of drinking water. The source of supply of drinking water is not even wells, it is tanks. And for what all purposes these tanks are used will be evident from one instance given in the Health Pamphlet on Guinea Worm. The following is the history of Guinea Worm infection in Suchindram.

"A resident of the Cuduppa District, Madras Presidency, came to Suchindram to see his wife's people, about two years ago, and has repeated these visits at intervals during the past two years. When he came to Suchindram, he was accustomed to bathe in the tank which is on the western side of the temple. At the time when he came to bathe what happened was this "The Brahmin women took the water from the tank to their homes to be utilised for cooking and other purposes. The Brahmin males have a habit of first taking some water in the right palm and drinking it as a preliminary to bathing. The Nair woman was a temple servant. She also bathed in the same tank "

And all contracted the same disease. There are no statistics as to the number of cattle which died on this account, because cattle also take water. They use these tanks for their purposes also. It so happens that this tank is situated in the heart of Suchindram, where the so-called depressed classes have no entry. Fortunately they were saved. It is an ill-wind that blows nobody any good. What happens is, cholera and tank water are reserved entirely for the socalled higher castes in Nanjinad. The others including cattle are immure. Sir, a comprehensive scheme of water supply must be undertaken. It has been a longstanding cry so for as the Nagercoil Municipality is concerned of which I was a member in the past for about 10 years. We do not grudge Trivandrum people for their water supply. Let them die in peace. I request Government to help us in that direction also to some extent.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): മി. പി. കെ. നാരായണപിള്ളയുടെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. അതിന്റെ മൂലതത്വത്തോടു അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നതുകൂടാതെ എനിക്കു ഒരു പ്രത്യേകസംഗതിക്കൂടി പറയുവാനുണ്ടു്, അതായതു് കരുനാഗപ്പള്ളിതാലൂക്കിൽ ആലപ്പാട്ടു, ചെറിയഴീക്കൽ എന്നീസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ അധിവസിക്കുന്ന അരയസമുദായക്കാരുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ശുദ്ധജലത്തിന്റെ ആവശ്യത്തിനായി ഒരു കിണർകുഴിപ്പിച്ചുകൊടുക്കണമെന്നു് മെമ്മോറിയൽ മുഖേനയും ഡെപ്യൂട്ടേഷൻമുഖേനയും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചിട്ടും ഇതുവരെ യാതൊരുവിധത്തിലുള്ള ആനുകൂല്യവും ചെയ്തുകൊടുത്തിട്ടില്ല. ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ അവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടു് വളരെ കൂടുതലാകയാൽ അതിനെ പരിഹരിച്ചുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ കടമയാണെന്നമാത്രം ഞാൻ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. K. M. KRISHNAN (*Ambalapuzha II*): കുളിക്കാനും കുടിക്കാനും ശുദ്ധജലം കിട്ടാതെ വളരെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടനുഭവിക്കുന്ന അനേകായിരം ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഇടയിൽനിന്നും വരുന്ന എനിക്കു ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നതിനു് വളരെ സന്തോഷമുണ്ടു്. നാടൊട്ടുക്കു് "വെള്ളമില്ല" "വെള്ളമില്ല" എന്നുള്ള സങ്കടംപറയുന്ന ആളുകളാണു അധികംപേരുള്ളതു്. അവരുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങളെ ഞങ്ങളുടെ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലുള്ളവരുടെ സങ്കടങ്ങളുമായി താരതമ്യപ്പെടുത്തിനോക്കിയാൽ മറ്റുള്ളവരുടേതു് നിസ്സാരം എന്നതന്നെയാണു് തോന്നുന്നതു്. അമ്പലപ്പുഴതാലൂക്കിലുള്ള അനേകസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ കുളിക്കാനും കുടിക്കാനും ശുദ്ധജലം കിട്ടാതെ ബുദ്ധിമുട്ടിവരുന്നു എന്നുള്ള സംഗതി പരസ്യമായ ഒരു കാര്യമാണു്. ആലപ്പുഴടൗണിൽ ഒരു വാടത്തോടു് ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ അവിടത്തെ ജോലിക്കാരായ വളരെ ആളുകൾക്കു് കുളിക്കാൻപോലും സാധിക്കയില്ലാ എന്നു പറയുന്നതിൽ അതിശയോക്തി ഒട്ടുംതന്നെയില്ല. വാടത്തോടിനു് അതിന്റെ യഥാർത്ഥമായ അർത്ഥംതന്നെയാണുള്ളതു്, അതായതു് ആ തോട്ടിന്റെ ഇരുകരകളിലും മലമൂത്രവിസർജ്ജനം ചെയ്യുവരുന്നതുമൂലം അതു് യഥാർത്ഥമായ ഒരു വാടത്തോടു് ആയിട്ടതന്നെയാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെ ഒട്ടും സ്വപരിപൂർണ്ണമായ സ്ഥലത്തുള്ള വെള്ളമാണു് ആലപ്പുഴയിലുള്ള ജനങ്ങൾ കുളിക്കുന്നതിനായി ഇന്നും ഉപയോഗിച്ചുവരുന്നതു് എന്നുള്ളതു് വെറും ഒരു വാസ്തവം മാത്രമാണു്. ഇതു് പരമാർത്ഥത്തിൽ സങ്കടകരമാണെന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ധരിപ്പിക്കാതിരിക്കുവാൻ എനിക്കു നിവൃത്തി

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

യില്ല. അൻപതിനായിരം ജനങ്ങളോളം അധിവസിക്കുന്ന ആലപ്പുഴ ടൗണിൽ ശുദ്ധജലംകിട്ടുന്നതിന് എന്തെങ്കിലും മാർഗ്ഗം ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. വളരെ നാളായി അവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങൾ ഇതിനെ പാറി പരാതികൾ പറഞ്ഞുവരുന്നുണ്ട്. തന്നിമിത്തം ആ സംഗതിയെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് ചില അന്വേഷണങ്ങൾ നടത്തുകയും പ്രാരംഭവേലകൾ തുടങ്ങുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഈ വിഷയത്തെക്കുറിച്ച് ചില റിപ്പോർട്ടുകൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറിലേക്ക് സമർപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതായും എനിക്കറിയാം. ഇങ്ങനെ അന്വേഷണവും റിപ്പോർട്ടും മാത്രംകൊണ്ടു കഴിയുന്നതല്ലാതെ കുടിക്കാൻ വെള്ളം കിട്ടുന്നതിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളൊന്നും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. ഈ വിധത്തിൽ എത്രനാൾ കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു എന്നു അറിയാനും പാടില്ല. ഇതിലേക്കു എന്തെങ്കിലും പരിഹാരം ഉണ്ടാക്കികൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. ആലപ്പുഴയുള്ള വെള്ളത്തിൻെറ നിറംകണ്ടാൽതന്നെ അതിനെ ഉപയോഗിക്കാൻ ആരും മടിക്കുന്നതാണ്. നല്ലതെളിവുള്ളവെള്ളം ആലപ്പുഴമുഴുവൻ അന്വേഷിച്ചാലും കിട്ടുമോ എന്നുള്ള കാര്യവും സംശയമാണ്. ജയിലിലും കടപ്പുറത്തും ഉള്ള രണ്ടു കിണറുകളിൽ നല്ലവെള്ളം ഉണ്ടെന്നു കേൾക്കുന്നുണ്ട്, എന്നാൽ അതു് ടൗണിലുള്ള എല്ലാവർക്കും ഉപയോഗപ്രദമായിത്തീരാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. നല്ലവെള്ളം കുടിച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ ജനങ്ങളുടെ ആരോഗ്യസ്ഥിതിക്ക് വളരെ ഹാനി ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി പ്രത്യേകം പറഞ്ഞറിയിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം ഇല്ലല്ലോ. ആലപ്പുഴയുണ്ടാകുന്ന മരണങ്ങളിൽ മിക്കവാറും അവിടത്തെ ചീത്തവെള്ളം കുടിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടാണ് സംഭവിക്കുന്നതു് എന്നു പറയാൻ എനിക്ക് അശേഷം മടിയില്ല. ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പ്രത്യേകംശ്രദ്ധവയ്ക്കണം. കുടിക്കാനുള്ള വെള്ളം എത്രയും വേഗത്തിൽ വരുത്തികൊടുക്കേണ്ടതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ മുമതലയാണ്. തിരുവനന്തപുരംപോലെയുള്ള വലിയപട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ ജലസൌകര്യത്തിനായിട്ടും മറ്റും ചിലവാക്കുന്നപണത്തിൻെറ ഒരംശം എങ്കിലും ആലപ്പുഴക്കാരുടെ ജലസൌകര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ചിലവുചെയ്യണം. എല്ലാ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും താമസിക്കുന്നവരോടു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുള്ള അനുഭാവം ഒരുപോലെയായിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. തിരുവനന്തപുരം, രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ പ്രധാന സ്ഥലമാണ്, മഹാരാജാവുതിരുമനസ്സുകൊണ്ടു് താമസിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലവുമാണ്, അതുകൊണ്ടു ഈ പ്രധാനസ്ഥലം നന്നായിരിക്കേണ്ടതു് അത്യാവശ്യംതന്നെ. ഇങ്ങനെ ഒക്കെയാണെങ്കിലും മറ്റുള്ളവരുടെ ആവശ്യങ്ങളെതീരെ അവഗണിക്കുന്നതു

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. M. Karishnan.]

ഒട്ടുംതന്നെ ശരിയല്ല. പണം ഇല്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള കാര്യങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാ എന്ന് ഗവണ്മെൻറ് എല്ലാ അവസരങ്ങളിലും സമാധാനം പറഞ്ഞുവരുന്നു. കുടിക്കാനുള്ള വെള്ളത്തിൻെറ കാര്യത്തിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറ് അങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഒരു മറുപടിപറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ കുടിക്കാൻപോലും വെള്ളം കിട്ടാതെ കഷ്ടപ്പെടുന്നവരെ കുറിച്ച് ഗവണ്മെൻറ യാതൊരു ദയവും കാണിക്കുന്നില്ലാ എന്ന മാത്രമെ പറയുവാനുള്ളൂ. കുടിക്കാൻ വെള്ളംകിട്ടാത്തസ്ഥലത്തു് അതുണ്ടാക്കികൊടുക്കുന്നതിന് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ദയാദൃഷ്ടി ഉണ്ടാകണം. ആലപ്പുഴയിലും പരിസരപ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും ഉള്ള വെള്ളം ത്വരെ മോശമാണെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരികയും ഉടൻതന്നെ അതിനൊരു പരിഹാരമാർഗ്ഗം ഉണ്ടാക്കികൊടുക്കണമെന്ന് അപേക്ഷിക്കയും ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI (*Nominated*): വെള്ളംക്രട്ടുതൽ ഉണ്ടാകുമ്പോഴും അതു് തീരെ ഇല്ലാതെ ആകുമ്പോഴും അനവരതം അവശത അനുഭവിച്ചുപോരുന്ന ഈ നാട്ടിലെ എളിയസമുദായക്കാരുടെ ചില സങ്കടങ്ങളും ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടിയാണു് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നതു്.

"ഉഞ്ഛവൃത്തികളും മലഞ്ചരുവിൽ വാഴ്വോർ
ഉഞ്ഛവൃത്തികളും വയൽകരയിൽ വാഴ്വോർ".

കർഷകവൃത്തിയെ അവലംബിക്കുന്ന വകയായാൽ അധഃകൃതവർഗ്ഗക്കാരുടെ പരമ്പരാജീവിതംതന്നെ ഈ വിധത്തിലാണു്. തന്നിമിത്തം ഇവർ രണ്ടുതരത്തിലും വിഷമിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്.

വർഷകാലത്തു് ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കംനിമിത്തം ഇവർ അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന സങ്കടം ഒരുതരം മലംചരിവുകളിലും കുന്നിൻപുറങ്ങളിലും താമസക്കാരായതുകൊണ്ടു് വേനൽക്കാലത്തു വെള്ളം ഇല്ലാതെ അനുഭവിക്കുന്ന വിഷമം വേറൊരുതരം. താഴ്ന്ന പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽമാത്രമെ വെള്ളം കിട്ടുകയുള്ളൂ. എന്നാൽ നിത്യോപയോഗത്തിനു അത്യാവശ്യമായ ശുദ്ധജല സംഭരണവിഷയത്തിൽ ഇവർ അത്യധികം സങ്കടപ്പെട്ടുവരുന്നുണ്ടു്. ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും നടത്തിവരുന്ന ഫെൽത്തു് യൂണിറ്റു് വർഷംതോറും പ്രസിദ്ധീകരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ലഘുലേഖകളുംമറ്റും അവക്കു കിട്ടുന്നതുമില്ല. അഥവാ ലഭിച്ചാൽ സുഖ സൗകര്യാദികളും ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനു അതു് സഹായിക്കയുമില്ല. മറ്റുള്ളകാര്യങ്ങളിൽ ചെയ്യുന്നതുപോലെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണ

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ചെയ്യുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന സഹായസഹകരണം ഈ രാജ്യത്തിലെ എളിയവരായ അവശ സമുദായക്കാർക്ക് ന്യായമായി കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. അവരുടെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണവിഷയത്തിൽക്കൂടിഹെൽത്ത് യൂണിറ്റു് താല്പര്യം പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമായിട്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. പട്ടണവാസികളായ സകലജനങ്ങളും, ജാതിമതഭേദമെന്യേ വാട്ടർ സപ്ലൈമുഖാന്തിരം നല്ലവെള്ളം കിട്ടുമെല്ലോ എന്നുള്ള അത്യാഹ്ലാദത്തോടും, അതു് എപ്പോഴാണ് ഉപയോഗപ്രദമാകാൻ പോകുന്നതു് എന്നുള്ള അത്യാകാംക്ഷയോടുംകൂടിയിരിക്കുകയാണു്. അവശസമുദായങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ വാട്ടർസപ്ലൈസംബന്ധിച്ചും ക്ലിവേലചെയ്യുന്നതിനു പട്ടണത്തിൽവരുന്ന അവസരത്തിലല്ലാതെ അവർക്കു നല്ലവെള്ളം കുടിക്കാൻ കിട്ടുകയില്ല. പിന്നെ പട്ടണത്തിന്റെ പരിസരത്തിൽ താമസിക്കുന്നവർക്കും ശുദ്ധജലം കിട്ടിയെന്നു വന്നേയ്ക്കാം. അതിനാൽ മറുസംഗതികളിൽ ചെയ്യുവരുന്ന സഹായസഹകരണങ്ങളംപോലെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണവിഷയത്തിലും മഹാരാജാവു് തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജാസഞ്ചയത്തിൽപെട്ട എളിയ ജനങ്ങളേയും കരുണാകടാക്ഷപൂർവ്വം സഹായിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ദൃഷ്ടിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവന്നുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Sir, I have very great pleasure in supporting the motion before the House. At present, it is not necessary for me to expatiate upon the need for good drinking water badly felt in the rural parts of the State. I take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the Health Department the long felt want of good drinking water in some of the places in the Chirayinkil taluk. I am referring to the norrow strip of land between the backwater and the Arabian Sea. The pesple of this part of the country, if they want good drinking water, have either to cross the lake and go to the eastern parts or to go long distances northward or southward. In places like Kaikara and Nedunganda, the people have to walk three or four miles to get good drinking water. The diseases usually caused by drinking bad water are pervalent there. Hookworm disease is rampant in these parts; so also filariasis. I would therefore request the earnest attention of the Government in the matter of providing good drinking water in the near future.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I support the motion. My friend Mr. Chidambaram Pillai hopes that, because the people of Trivandrum have got, or are about to get good drinking water, they may be allowed to *die* in peace. What he intended must have been that the people of Trivandrum might be allowed to *live* in peace. Sir, I will pay the compliment back to him and say that I wish that

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai.]

the people of South Travancore, particularly Nanjinad, are allowed to *live* in peace and prosper. I have been in Nanjinad myself when a young boy; and I have seen Nanjinad several times afterwards also. At first I found it absolutely impossible to drink water there, because it was dirty and greenish in colour. I believe the difficulties experienced by the people of south Travancore in this respect are well known. Similarly, Sir, the sea-coast taluks, right from Cape Comorin up to the utmost extremity in the north have only brackish water, water absolutely unfit for drinking purposes.

Sir, it is admitted that prevention is better than cure. The Government of Travancore are spending huge sums of money in preventive medicine and in all such endeavours. If in these circumstances, they are not able to provide good drinking water to the people of the country, in spite of the excellent work they do on the subject and in spite of the hopes they entertain in the matter, all the efforts of the Public Health Department to improve conditions of general health will be absolutely infructuous. In times gone by, there were certain officers in Travancore Government service, Dewan Peishkars and others—one gentleman I remember, Mr. Raghunatha Rao—with whom the sinking of wells was a favourite occupation. A good number of excellent wells were sunk in their days. I do not say, Sir, that the officers of the Public Works Department do not sympathise with the people in this matter; but, they have much of urgent and important work to do. I have heard, Sir, of a battle being lost because a horse lost its shoe, It is like that.

Sir, if the drinking water is not good, all kinds of diseases will be introduced and the people are bound to suffer. There is no practical use in the Government accepting motions and resolutions in this form. This is one of those subjects in which there is no difference of opinion possible; and hence, perhaps, the maximum difficulty in anything being done. If there is a debate, dispute of any kind, then perhaps, people will bestow some attention to it. But, it is the fundamental truths that are very often dishonoured, because they do not fascinate people. I will propose a practical scheme, Sir. I request that Government should earmark not less than fifty thousand rupees for this purpose and begin in right earnest the sinking of wells right up from Cape Comorin along the sea coast to the northern most point in Travancore. My friend Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai reminded us of the kind promise made by the late Sri Mulam Tirunal Maha Raja at the time of his accession. I remember one instance in the history of one of the Maha Rajas of Travancore who lived about 500 years ago. He loved the people of the country so much and paid so much personal attention to their needs that, on one occasion, he himself went to a place in South Travancore, called Parasurama Perum Teruvu, a street not then open to all classes of the people, and commanded that all sections of the people could freely enter the street for the purpose of getting good drinking water from a well there. That is the policy which has been

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

pursued by His Highness the Maha Raja. That is the policy which has been pursued and which must be pursued by the Travancore Government. Therefore, Sir, I would impress upon the attention of Government the urgent necessity of not merely accepting the scheme but of providing a decent sum of money for the construction of these wells which is a duty which the Government must discharge, and this long suffering people will bless the Travancore Government for this favour.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting this proposition. It is an admitted fact that there is a very large area in Travancore where good drinking water is not available. My friend Mr. Velu Pilli suggested to Government that Rs. 50,000 might be earmarked for sinking wells, that may be useful in some places where the subsoil contains good water. But of the places suffering from want of good drinking water, there are few where good drinking water could be had by sinking wells. Take for instance places along the coastal regions, like Kayankulam, Alleppey Kartikapalli, and Shertallai. However deep you may sink a well in any of those places you cannot get good drinking water though there is plenty of water in the subsoil. So that you will have to convey good drinking water to those places by means of pipes from places where you can get it. That, I submit, is a very large problem indeed. But it is a vital problem which, it is the duty of every Government to investigate and find a solution for. I would suggest, Sir, that the matter may be taken very earnestly in hand and very carefully investigated in order to find out how best good drinking water may be taken to these places at the least cost. The preliminary investigation will certainly not involve much cost but the carrying out or the materialisation of the scheme will certainly involve a heavy cost. This is a matter in which Goverument might legitimately plead want of funds, but I would suggest, Sir, that considering the paramount importance of the matter it may not be out of place if the Government asked the people to contribute liberally to meet the cost of any scheme the Government might devise, A fair water-cess would solve the problem of finance. I would therefore suggest that the matter be taken in hand and investigated immediately and some practicable scheme devised.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I wish to ask a question, Sir. Will not a deep and well-dug well provide better water than the wells now?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : However deep you may sink the well you cannot reach good water where there is none in the subsoil.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : Has the member enquired whether there are good deep springs in those places?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*) : So far as the wells are concerned, Sir, there is no well in any of these places which gives good water. Of course, there

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. Changanacherry K. Paramesvaran Pillai.]

are certain parts in the State where the problem may be solved by means of wells but in the majority of cases it cannot be. Take for instance, Alleppy. However deep you may dig a well, you get only water looking just like tea-decoction.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Would not a deep well protected properly at least prevent contamination from the neighbourhood ?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): The question is not whether wells should be protected but whether good drinking water should not be supplied to the people who want it.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): What about the tube wells ?

MR. CHANGNACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): You must ask Dr. Tampi about it. Nobody has tried that. My impression is that there is no good water in the sub-soil in those places and it does not matter whether it is a deep well or a narrow well that is dug there. There must be good water in the sub-soil to be pumped up.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know from the member whether there was an attempt to get good water by means of tube wells in Arattupuzha ?

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): I do not know about it.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): സർ, നല്ലവെള്ളം കുടിക്കുന്നതിനൊ നല്ലവെള്ളത്തിൽ കുളിക്കുന്നതിനൊ ഭാഗ്യമില്ലാത്ത ജാതിയാണ് അധഃകൃതർ എന്നു പ്രസ്താവിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും പലസ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും പബ്ലിക്കിൻെറ ആവശ്യത്തിനായി കിണറുകൾ കുഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിലും അധഃകൃതക്ക് ആ തരത്തിലുള്ള കിണറുകളിൽനിന്നു വെള്ളംകോരുന്നതിനുള്ള സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യം ഇതുവരെ നൽകിയിട്ടില്ല എന്ന് വ്യസനസമേതം പറയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. കുട്ടനാടൻ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽ താമസിച്ചുവരുന്ന അധഃകൃതർ അവിടത്തെ അഴുക്കുവെള്ളംകുടിച്ച്, ആരോഗ്യംനശിച്ചു, അനുദിനവും അകാലമരണത്തിനു അധീനരായിതീരുന്നുണ്ട്. ഈ സ്ഥലത്തു താമസിക്കുന്നവർ അവിടവിടെ ചെറുകുളങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടാക്കി അതിൽനിന്നുമാണ് കുടിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള വെള്ളം എടുത്തുവരുന്നത്. ഈ കുളങ്ങൾ വെള്ളംപൊങ്ങുമ്പോൾ നികന്നുപോകുന്നതിനാൽ വെള്ളംകിട്ടുന്നതിനു നിവർത്തിയില്ലാതാകുന്നു. മീനമാസത്തിൽ കൊയ്ത്തുതുടങ്ങുന്ന അവസരത്തിൽ ഹെൽത്തു് യൂണിറ്റുകാർവക വേണ്ട സഹായസഹകരണങ്ങൾ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. പുഞ്ച

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

കൊയ്ത്തുതുടങ്ങുന്ന മീനമാസത്തിൽ ആയിരക്കണക്കിനു അധഃകൃതർ കിഴക്കൻമലകളിൽനിന്നും ഈ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിൽവന്നു താമസിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ആ സമയത്തു അവർക്കു കുടിക്കുവാൻ ശുദ്ധജലം അശേഷം കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. പത്തും പതിനഞ്ചും മൈൽ ദൂരത്തെനിന്നുമാണു് അവർക്കു കുടിക്കുവാൻ വെള്ളം കൊണ്ടുവന്നു കൊടുക്കുന്നതു്. അതും നല്ലവെള്ളമല്ല. അതികഠിനമായ വെയിലിൽ അത്യധികമായ ദേഹാദ്ധ്വാനംചെയ്തു ഈ ചീത്തവെള്ളവും കുടിക്കുന്നതുനിമിത്തം അനേകം ആളുകൾ കോളറാ മുതലായ ഘോരവ്യാധികളും പിടിപെട്ടു മരിച്ചുപോകുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതിനാൽ പുഞ്ചക്കൊയ്ത്തു തുടങ്ങുന്ന മീനമാസത്തിൽ അവിടെ ഒരു ഹെൽത്തു് യൂണിറ്റു് ആഫീസ്സു് സ്ഥാപിച്ചു നല്ലവെള്ളം കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഏർപ്പാടു് ചെയ്യണമെന്നു പ്രത്യേകം അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

നാഞ്ചിനാടു മുതലായ പ്രദേശങ്ങളിലും നല്ലവെള്ളം അധഃകൃതർക്കു കിട്ടുന്നില്ല. ധനവാന്മാരുടെ ഉപയോഗത്തിനായി എഴുന്നൂറും ആയിരവും രൂപാ ചിലവാക്കി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും കിണറുകൾ കുഴിപ്പിച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. അധഃകൃതർക്കു കിണർ കുഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു ഫണ്ടു് രൂപാ ഒരു ഗ്രാൻറുപോലെ കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നതേയുള്ളു. അതു് ദയാപൂർവ്വമായ ഒരു പ്രവർത്തിയല്ല. മറ്റുള്ളവർക്കു കിണറുകുഴിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു ചിലവാക്കുന്ന പണത്തേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽപണം ചിലവുചെയ്തു അധഃകൃതർക്കു് കിണറുകുഴിപ്പിച്ചുകൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണു്. അധഃകൃതരുടെ ആരോഗ്യം മലിനജലംകുടിക്കുന്നതുനിമിത്തം നശിച്ചുപോയാൽ, നാട്ടിന്റെ നട്ടെല്ലായും ജീവനാഡിയായും ഇരിക്കുന്ന അധഃകൃതരുടെ ആരോഗ്യം നശിച്ചുപോയാൽ, നാട്ടിന്റെ ഐശ്വര്യം കുറഞ്ഞുപോകുമെന്നുള്ളതിനു യാതൊരുസംശയവുമില്ല. ഇതു് ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെക്കൂടി ബാധിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു്. ഇങ്ങനെ അധഃകൃതരുടെ ആരോഗ്യം ഏറ്റവും പ്രധാനമായിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു അവർക്കു നല്ലവെള്ളം കൂടുതലായികിട്ടുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട ഏർപ്പാടുചെയ്യണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha East*): മറ്റുള്ളവർക്കു നല്ലവെള്ളംകൊടുക്കണ്ടാ എന്നാണൊ മെമ്പർ അഭിപ്രായപ്പെടുന്നതു്?

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): മറ്റുള്ള ആളുകൾക്കുകൂടി ശുദ്ധജലംകിട്ടാൻ പ്രയാസമായിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടു അധഃകൃതർക്കു നല്ലവെള്ളം കിട്ടുകയില്ല എന്നുള്ളതു നിശ്ചയമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടാണു് ഞാൻ അങ്ങിനെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതു്.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Sir, I wish to support the motion of Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai. I hope at least with regard to this matter, that a large supply of fresh uncontaminated pure drinking water is a prime necessity of man, there will be no difference of opinion. At least Doctors will not differ with regard to this point though some of our leading publicists might differ with regard to the particular methods by or the sources from which good drinking water might be supplied to the people. Sir, it is not a new discovery that cholera, one of the terrible diseases that carry away thousands of people every now and then, is a water-borne disease. This was taught to us even when we were boys in our primary classes. Even after so many years we find that there are not sufficient sources of good drinking water in various parts of the country. Well, Sir, I am a specialist in cholera in the sense that I represent a constituency which has shown the greatest death roll during the last cholera epidemic. It was observed during the cholera season that the incidence of the disease was along the line of water courses. I hope that was noticed by the medical officers who were on duty at the time in the various pakuthies. The disease broke out along the water course, for instance, along the Kuzhithura river. Many people who lived on the banks of the river used the river water for their drinking purposes and the many cases of cholera that were seen along the line of the river were due to the drinking of the river water. Then again in the taluk of Vilavankod which has got a long sea coast inhabited by poor fishermen all along the cost during the last cholera season, almost all the fishing villages were affected and the fishermen died in thousands. So I urge on the attention of Government the prime necessity of sinking wells in suitable places. Of course, it is not in all places that deep-water wells can be sunk. But in places where such wells can be sunk they should be sunk. In other places, of course, pipe water has to be introduced. For instance, for a town like Trivandrum it will be more profitable and more advantageous and that is the only method. But in many of the rural parts, of course, the sub-soil is quite alright and if deep wells are sunk there would be a large supply of water for use at all times of the year. So, I would respectfully urge upon the attention of Government and, especially of the officers who are in charge of Public Health and Sanitation, to increase the number of fresh water wells in rural parts and also wherever posssible, to introduce the pipe water system also.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): May I know from the member if we could get good drinking water at the Cape if we sunk a very deep well?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Well, Sir, I am living in a place now where no well is less than 100 feet deep. But of course we have to pay a very heavy charge to our servants to lift the water. But, all the same, we get excellent drinking water in spite of the depth of the well. I am living at Ramavarmapuram near Nagercoil.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): I am speaking of the Cape. Is it possible to get good drinking water even if we sink a well there more than 100 feet deep?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): It is not possible at the Cape.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): That is the case in Shertala.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Sir, this is such a very important subject that people who have been listening to the discussion might very often forget themselves. But I, at any rate, do not propose to forget myself. I may say at the very outset that I heartily endorse the sentiments given expression to by my friend Mr. Chidambaram Pillai in relation to the necessity of the supply of good drinking water in Nanjinad. I may also add that I am really thankful for the sentiments expressed by Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai and Mr. A. Narayana Pillai who had in the course of their discussion, the goodness to refer to the sufferings of the poor innocent souls in the coast for want of good drinking water, as a result of which, and I know to my own personal knowledge that, thousands and thousands were carried away during the last cholera epidemic. I may say, Sir, that I was one of those persons who had occasion to witness the scene myself when more than half a dozen or sometimes even a dozen corpses were taken away from the cholera camp to be burried in the place called Muttam. I also saw not only the medical men but also the volunteers throwing themselves heart and soul in the work of relieving those poor people. Invariably the method adopted there, I found, was to disinfect those pools and ponds that were found surrounding those villages and from which those poor people, in spite of the fact that they were taught not to touch a drop of the water in those pools and ponds, took water for drinking purposes.

Sir, it was a most pitiable and heartrending sight for us to find. If it is not feasible for Government for lack of funds to give immediate relief to this dire necessity of those poor people, at least wells could be sunk. Mr. Changanacherry Parameswaran Pillai, when I asked him whether a well could be sunk in Cape, said it could not be. I can tell him that about 20 feet near the promontary, a good well has been sunk by the Devaswom Department where good drinking water is available.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Which is that place?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Inside what they call the Sanketham there is a bathing ghat. On the way to the Mandapam on the southern side where the Hindu Pilgrims have their both.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Does the member say that it is not brackish water?

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): It is very very good drinking water.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Rattanapuram*): It is brackish water.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): No, it is very good water. It gives very good taste (as very good water). The water supplied by a well of that kind would go a great way to relieve the suffering poor. Then with regard to the villagers in Nanjinad, I need hardly point out the desirability of sinking more wells in those villages. My friend Mr. John Joseph was giving expression to the statement that in Nanjinad the so-called highcaste people get good donation for digging wells. I do not know wherefrom my friend got that information. All the same if it is found true that wells have been dug at the cost of the Government for the use of the so-called highcaste people, is it not feasible for the Government to sink as many wells as possible for the use of the depressed classes? I would take this opportunity to ask the Government to throw open those wells to all castes and creeds if it is not possible to allot money for sinking wells to the depressed classes. At least those wells about which there could be no objection should be thrown open so that other people might also be given freedom to draw water.

One word about the Municipal Council. Some years ago, at their cost of Rs.1,000, an investigation was made for water supply to the Nagercoil Town. A report was also submitted for adoption. It was pressed in more sessions of the Legislative Council than one. The Government undertook that, when the Trivandrum Water Supply was finished, they would take up the supply to the Nagercoil Town. I do not know what is to come out of it. With these words, I support the motion.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Sir, I need hardly say that I support the motion because I cannot imagine a member who would say that he opposes this motion. Even Government members would endorse that aspect of the question, namely, that nobody would oppose such a demand. But seeing member after member urge and press the needs of his own constituency, I thought I would be failing in my duty if I did not press the needs of my constituency which is the dirtiest constituency of all the 62 constituencies—dirtiest in the sense that it comprises the dirtiest portions of two taluks. Sir, I take it as a proud privilege that I was called upon to represent such a dirty constituency because it affords me an opportunity of bringing to the notice of Government the lack of facilities the people of that place have in getting good drinking water. It is not a question of want of water. There is water everywhere during the rainy season as well as during the dry season. The cry of the people there is: "water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink". Even during the rainy season they cannot get good drinking water. My constituency comprises the coastal regions of the Kartikapalli taluk and some of the pakuthies of the Karunagapalli taluk. In those two taluks there are certain pakuthies where there are no means of communication and no means of getting good drinking water. There is no public well or river in these places. In the rainy season these parts are affected by floods. But the flood water is very dirty and cannot be used for drinking. I think there

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

was some proposal to sink wells in some parts of this constituency to supply good drinking water. I believe the efforts which were made by the P. W. D. proved to be a failure. Perhaps it was because that attempt proved a failure, that we find no provision being made for the supply of drinking water in these taluks in next year's budget.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): If wells are sunk in those regions, will they be able to supply good drinking water?

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): I have not made any experiment.

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): There is provision in the budget for 1109 to sink another tube well there.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Karthikapalli I*): I am very thankful to the member in charge of the P. W. D. for giving that information. I thought there was no provision. Probably the provision is to continue the attempt that was made sometime back. Anyhow the need is very imperative and I would request the Government to look into the matter. It may be entrusted to the Public Health Department, because they may be able to do it better and to consider the needs of all parts of Travancore as a whole. The P. W. D. will consider it only from local points of view. Anyway the question requires immediate attention on the part of Government, because without water and air we cannot live. That is a very elementary proposition to which anybody would accede. The other needs, such as, electricity, may be kept in abeyance. This big question should be first taken up and considered.

MR. A. EASWARA PILLAI (*Kottarakara*): I move that the question be now put——

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Sir, in supporting this motion, I may be permitted to refer to one circumstance. In Kunnatnad, the constituency which I represent, there is very good drinking water in the sub-soil about 10 or 15 feet below. But the soil is so rocky that it is impossible to penetrate. It is a very costly process and only very rich people can afford to have the rocks blasted. Poor people, depressed and non-depressed, have to rely on the bounty of the rich for getting water, especially for three months from Kumbham to the middle of Edavam every year. I request that the Government would be pleased to extend the activities of the Public Health Department to those portions of Kunnatnad taluk where this condition exists so that people may get drinking water.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the question of supplying pure drinking water is one of the most gigantic problems that faces the Public Health Department of the State. Nobody for a moment questions that good protected drinking water is the most essential requirement for maintenance of health. But the problem is not a simple one. The difficulty lies in the fact that in various parts of Travancore, there is no good water to be obtained. For instance, from the Cape northwards, along the coast, up to Parur, there is a belt

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. George.]

of land where good drinking water is hardly to be found. The Public Works Department has attempted the sinking of wells in the Cape Comorin region in South Travancore; but it was found that the water they got from those wells was alkaline and was not suitable for drinking. The same is the case with regard to the water along the coastal tracts.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Is there not excellent drinking water in the Shankumukham beach?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, I am not saying that no-where along the coast is good drinking water to be found. That is a matter about which investigation will be necessary. As Mr. Jacob was saying a moment ago, the P. W. D. has been investigating in some places. I have just mentioned about their investigation in the Cape. They sunk two tube wells. But that method of supplying water had to be given up because in the first place, it is not easy to keep the tube wells in repair. The public handle them roughly and they go out of use very soon. So, that plan had to be given up.

In those places there is great difficulty in getting good drinking water in whatever depths wells are sunk. But here and there it may be possible to find good water. It requires a full investigation in the matter.

There are two ways of supplying good drinking water. One is by the sinking of wells and the other by carrying water through pipes or tubes. Of these the former *i. e.* sinking of wells is less costly. The other can be attempted, in most cases, only in Municipal towns or conservancy areas where people congregate and live together. In the case of rural areas the problem has to be faced more by sinking of wells. It has been said, Sir, that Government have not spent as much money.....

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): The Chief Secretary has said that in most places where wells have been sunk no water could be found. In those places, have Government considered any method by which water could be supplied?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): What I said was that the problem has to be investigated and such places found out.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Has that been done?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The P. W. D. has done some investigations.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I know when the investigation was discontinued?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not exactly "discontinued". I understand that in Karunagapalli and Kartikapalli they are sinking a new well to find out whether good water can be got.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Was investigation undertaken this year?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. I believe so.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): Was investigation done in Alleppey and Sherthalai?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot go into detail because I am dealing with the problem in a general way.

MR. EDAVNATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I ask the member for the sake of information.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is the problem of supplying good drinking water to the Alleppey town. That is a very large question involving a large sum of money.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): I ask the question because a few years ago there was an investigation in Alleppey to find out whether Government could find sufficient supply of good drinking water. I wish to know what has become of that investigation subsequently.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot recollect.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): If it is a very large question, how do Government get their information about the construction of wells?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have got certain definite information in regard to the sinking of wells.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know who is the officer responsible for the sinking of wells?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are two Departments engaged in the sinking of wells. One is the P. W. D. and the other is the Sanitary Department.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know who was responsible for the supply of drinking water in 1107?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Partly the P. W. D. and partly the Sanitary Department.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Does the member know that the information supplied in the Administration report of the Sanitary Department for the year 1107 is like this —

"Information regarding the wells sunk in the other Divisions is not available".

In the light of such very meagre attention paid to this very important question I wish to know what is the force of the information that Government have.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I said P. W. D. and Sanitary Departments. I have got some later information.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): In the light of this kind of information supplied, would the member enlighten the House

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. E. V. Krishna Pillai.]

as to the meaning of the last sentence of the G. O. on the subject which runs thus :—

'The supply of drinking water in rural areas also engaged the attention of the Government'.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have got some later information which I shall place before the House.

The Sanitary Department is annually given Rs. 3,000 for the repair and maintenance of wells as well as for the sinking of new wells. The wells are sunk in some cases by the P. W. D. and in other cases by the Sanitary Department.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Have Government been satisfied on the subject that in most cases sinking of wells will not solve the problem because good drinking water could not be had. In such cases have Government any scheme in their mind to face the problem?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They have not got any definite scheme.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): What do they propose to do in such cases?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I will come to that later.

I was at the question of how the sinking of wells is done. The Sanitary Department is entrusted with the duty of the maintenance of the wells that have been sunk. Wells the construction of which would involve an expenditure of over Rs. 250 will be sunk by the P. W. D. because that involves some technical skill in the actual construction. In the Sanitary Department there is no officer who has got any professional or technical skill in the matter of sinking deep wells costing a lot of money.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether watchers are appointed to protect these wells from contamination after they are sunk?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not know. I do not think watchers are appointed What should be done if the watchers go home and sleep?

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): They should not be allowed to do it.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Then there should be watchers to watch the watchers.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Without the watcher will not the purpose be defeated? Will not the wells be contaminated?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is for the public that use the well to see that the water they use is not contaminated. Wells might be protected in other ways such as by closing them leaving only a small opening for allowing the water to be drawn.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether new wells are not sunk due to the delay on the part of the P. W. D.?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Last year 21 recommendations were made by the Sanitary Commissioner to the Chief Engineer for sinking new wells. I find from the Sanitary Commissioner's report that 15 wells were sunk by the P. W. D. That is not, I say bad work.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know why certain amounts ear-marked for the sinking of wells are cancelled?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secreatry to Government*): That is partly for sinking of wells and partly for maintenance and repair.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Do the Government check the accounts submitted by the Sanitary Commissioner?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Certainly. There is the Accounts Department to do it.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): From the budget it is seen that under capital allotment for 1107 Rs. 2,611 was given to the Sanitary Department out of which evidently somebody took away 23 chuckrams and seven cash because, here, account is given only for Rs. 2,610-5 chs. and 1 cash.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Sir, I rise to a point of order.

PRESIDENT: I think you are wasting the time of the House, Mr. E. V. Krishna Pillai.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Part of the amount that is given to the Sanitary Commissioner is allowed to be used in another way. He is authorised to grant contributions up to Rs. 250 in each case to persons who come forward to sink public wells. That is another way in which Government have been encouraging the sinking of wells by the Sanitary Department.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are these wells for the use of the public?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. It is a definite condition that such wells should be open to all classes of people.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Is there a Sanitary Engineer under Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No. An examination of the P. W. D. budget discloses certain interesting figures regarding the expenditure incurred by Government over the head of water supply. The figures are taken from the appendix to the Budget. I may say that they do not relate entirely to the sinking of wells. They include also provision for the construction of tanks and other similar works. Still we find a large sum of money is spent annually on the sinking of wells in rural areas. In the Budget of 1109, under water supply about Rs. 9,000 is provided under works in progress for water supply, Rs. 10,000 and odd for new works, and there is a sum of

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. George.]

Rs. 3,400 for maintenance and repair of wells. Besides these, there is a provision of Rs. 3,000 for the purpose in the Sanitary Budget. In addition to these, Government have allowed a certain sum of money to the Protector of depressed classes. That is to be used for the sinking of wells for the use of the depressed classes.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): In what part of Travancore please?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is not stated. He is given the discretion to use it where there is urgency.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Have Government given separate jurisdiction for the three sets of officers *viz.*, the Sanitary Department, the P. W. D., and the Protector of depressed classes. Will there not be over-laping of jurisdiction?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There will be no over-laping of jurisdiction because the Sanitary Department will not do any work costing more than Rs. 250 and the P. W. D. will carry out work on the recommendation of the Sanitary or the Public Health Department. As regards the work of the Protector of depressed classes wells would be sunk mainly for depressed class people who live together in colonies in depressed class villages. So there will not be any over-laping of jurisdiction.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ശുദ്ധജലവിതരണം ചെയ്യുന്നതിലും ഡിപ്രസ്ഡ് ക്ലാസ്സാണ്, മറ്റുള്ള വർഗക്കാരാണ, എന്നുള്ള വ്യത്യാസം കാണിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I think it is not necessary to answer that question because I believe the member himself knows that depressed class people in some places are not admitted to draw water from public wells.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla III*): ആ വ്യത്യാസം മാറിയാൽ പോരെ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is a very large question to discuss which I am not going to take the time of the House now?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): By public wells does the member mean wells under the control of Government?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Are there public wells inaccessable to depressed classes?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There might be. I have not got statistics of such wells. At any rate the new wells sunk are open to all communities alike.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, the member has not answered my question. May I know whether there was delay on the part of the P. W. D. in sinking new wells?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There might have been delay. From what I was saying a few moments ago it will be seen that when the Sanitary Department recommended the construction of 21 more wells, the P. W. D. has been able to construct 15 wells. That shows that there was not much delay.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I draw the attention of the member to page 32 of the Report of the Sanitary Department.

> "Several new wells were recommended to the Government and their administrative sanction obtained. But the sinking of these wells did not progress well, owing to the delay with the Public Works Department."

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There may be some delay in some cases. The P. W. Department is a department which has multifarious duties, and if there has been some delay it is only natural.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I ask the member why the work of sinking new wells cannot be handed over to the Public Health or Sanitary Department.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Sinking of large wells would require some engineering skill, and only the officers of the P. W. D. possess the necessary professional and technical knowledge.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know whether the P. W. D. sink wells through their servants or it is given on contract systems ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Wells are sunk by the P. W. D. under expert supervision.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Could not the same expert be appointed in the Public Health Department also and under his supervision wells sunk.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That would necessitate the provision of additional staff to assist the Public Health Department.

MR. M. K. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*) : ൨൯ കിണറുകൾ കുഴിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്ന് പറഞ്ഞത് ദക്ഷിണതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലാണോ ഉത്തരതിരുവിതാംകൂറിലാണോ ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Mostly in South Travancore, as the people who suffer most are those living in coastal tracts in South Travancore. Sir. Mr. Changanachery Parameswaran Pillai asked whether the Government have any definite programme in the matter of sinking wells. It will be one of the duties—

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*) : Is there not a definite programme outlined by Government for this purpose ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I will come to that. One of the duties of the new Public Health Department would be to make investigations and submit to Government definite schemes

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. George.]

for the provision of water supply where it is most needed. If the scheme is a practicable one, it can be put into effect.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur* cum *Pattanapuram*): Is protection of drinking water one of the duties of the Public Health Department.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Supply of protected drinking water is one of the duties of the Public Health Department.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): Sir, I have a question.

PRESIDENT: Please allow him to finish his sentence. I have very often noticed members interrupting the official member when speaking and not allowing him to finish the sentence. Members will hereafter see that the official members are not interrupted in the middle of a sentence.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): In the scheme presented to Government by Dr. Jacocks, there is a provision for the appointment of a Sanitary Engineer to Government. That means that the provision of protected water supply is one of the duties which the Public Health Department will undertake in course of time.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) Why not entrust the business of sinking wells entirely to the new Public Health Department?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Probably the member did not hear what I said a little while ago. It would be the function of the Public Health Department to go into this question and to advise Government as to how this problem has to be tackled. No doubt, officers of the P. W. D. will be necessary to investigate the matter. Both the Public Health and the Public Works Departments, will have to work hand in hand so long as we have no sanitary engineering branch in the Public Health Department.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) Have the Government conducted any further investigations after the resolution on this subject was passed in the Legislative Council?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The P. W. D. has conducted investigations in the coastal tracts.

MR. A. S DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Is it after the resolution was passed?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am not sure.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Was it not stated at that time, that tube wells and other wells were sunk. For instance, in Arattupuzha or so, there was constructed a tube well.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I do not exactly remember that. I have nothing more to say.

PRESIDENT: The question is that the motion be now put.

The motion is carried.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) I think I am entitled to a right of reply.

PRESIDENT: You can speak.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR, P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) : Sir, I do not take the learned Chief Secretary as objecting to this motion. In the result I do not know what his view upon the subject is. He said no doubt that Government are making certain endeavours, in their own way, to meet the demand in this respect. We see from the opinion of the members on this side of the House, that the necessity is generally felt. It is not denied. Mr. T. K. Velu Pillai said that somewhere about Trivandrum, or in Nanjinad, the water is greenish in colour. Mr. Krishnan referred to the water at Alleppey as reddish. I have myself seen water in certain centres to be brownish. So much so, I fear that the rains on the coastal regions in Travancore seem to descend in rain-bow colours. Such being the nature of the water that we get, it is immaterial whether we should ourselves suggest the course or the means to remove the evil or not. The evil is made out and the question is whether Government should not find a remedy for it. All the same, it was suggested by members on this side of the House that well-boring might probably meet the difficulty. We had a boring machine about which we were all fond and familier in the previous Council but of which, we hear nothing now. We heard that it was operating in the Manga Malai somewhere in South Travancore. Since then we hear nothing of it. Mr. Changanachery Paramesvaran Pillai said that well-boring or any other piece of boring may not cope with the difficulty and that water will have to be transported from other places by means of pipes. That is another solution offered. Then of course it naturally raised the question of finances. I thought in the nature of this essential requirement and the pathetic claim therefor, not even the most "terrific financier rhinoceros" to borrow the language of H. G. wells, would raise the question of funds, anyhow, at the first flush of the subject. However that question was raised. It is a vital necessity that is placed before the House. I am therefore not concerned with all these subsidiary problems till I hear from the Government benches that the expert skill now at the disposal of Government, is prepared to admit its bankruptcy in the matter of resources to fight the difficulty. Till then, it is not the concern of this side of the House to suggest ways and means to meet this particular difficulty. If they admit they are at their wits end, then we may suggest the procedure to them. To satisfy a legitimate demand, I simply bring it to the notice of a civilized Government. I say the coastal regions along the western frontier of Travancore are left without good drinking water. The evils that spring from the lack of such water are patent. They are not denied on the other side. Now if the Government say that we are to devise the means for that, then, we shall consider that question. Till then I leave the question to the careful and earnest consideration of Government and watch for a prompt solution of it. More than this, Sir, I need not say by way of reply to the Chief Secretary. I press the motion to a division.

PRESIDENT: The motion is to reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,504 for establishment by Rs. 100. The motion was put to the vote of the House and carried.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I demand a poll. A poll was taken with the following result.

AYES—56.

1	Mr.	N. Abdur Rahiman Sahib.	28	Mr.	C. V. Kunjuraman.
2	,,	K. C. Abraham.	29	,,	E. K. Kunjuraman.
3	,,	T. K. Alexander.	30	,,	K. M. Kuriakose.
4	,,	V. T. Chacko.	31	,,	K. Madhavan.
5	,,	S. Chattanatha Karayalar.	32	,,	M: K. Madhavan Pillai.
6	,,	P. Chidambaram Pillai.	33	,,	K. Mahomed.
7	,,	A. S. Damodaran Asan.	34	,,	M. N. Nair.
8	,,	A. Easwara Pillai (*Kalkulam II*)	35	,,	K. A. Narayana Pillai.
			36	,,	Pacode A. Narayana Pillai.
9	,,	A. Easvara Pillai (*Kottarakara*)	37	,,	P. C. Narayana Pillai.
			38	Srimathi	T. Narayani Amma.
10	,,	K. R. Elenkath.	39	Mr.	G. Nilakantan.
11	,,	Antony George.	40	,,	S. Nilakanta Pillai.
12	,,	M. Mahomed Haneef	41	,,	K. Padmanabhan.
13	,,	S. J. Nair.	42	,,	Edavanatt S. Padmanabha Menon.
14	,,	M. K. Janardana Kamath.			
15	,,	T. S. Jayanthan Namboothiri	43	,,	Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai.
16	,,	N. John Joseph.	44	,,	Changanachery K. Paramesvaran Pillai.
17	,,	J. M. Joseph.			
18	,,	T. C. Joseph.	45	,,	V. Ramakrishna Panickar.
19	,,	K. C. Karunakaran.	46	,,	R. Raman Pillai.
20	,,	T. T. Kesavan Sastri.	47	,,	T. P. Ramasubha Aiyar.
21	,,	K. M. Krishnan	48	,,	R. Sambasiva Aiyar.
22	,,	K. P. Krishna Menon.	49	,,	K. Sankaran,
23	,,	Pottayil S. Krishna Panickar.	50	,,	M. Sivatanu Pillai.
			51	,,	A. Thanu Pillai.
24	,,	E. V. Krishna Pillai.	52	,,	P. K. Thomas.
25	,,	N. K. Krishna Pillai.	53	,,	N. E. Varughese.
26	,,	T. Krishna Pillai.	54	,,	V. K. Velappan Nair.
27	,,	Kunjukrishna Pillai.	55	,,	T. P. Velayudhan Pillai.
			56	,,	T. K. Velu Pillai.

NOES—10.

1	Mr.	C. V. Chandrasekharan.	7	Mr.	R. Nilakanta Pillai.
2	,,	K. George.	8	,,	N. K. Padmanabha Pillai.
3	,,	L. H. Jacob.	9	,,	Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai.
4	Rao Sahib	Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai.			
5	Mr.	C. O. Madhavan.	10	,,	T. C. Thommen.
6	,,	B. Narayana Pillai.			

NEUTRALS—2.

1. Mr. R. Sivasubrahmanya Nadar. | 2. Mr. John Whiteley Tolson.

The motion was carried.

PRESIDENT: At the time when the motion was put, one from the non-official side had raised his hand. Now he is not to be seen on that side. That is quite improper.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I rise to a point of order. If a member has voted against at the time when the motion was put, I wish to know whether he is not in order to change his mind when the poll is taken.

PRESIDENT: I said it is improper.

Motion No. 210.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Sir, I beg to make the following motion:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs 10,831 for Hookworm Treatment Campaign (1) Field Staff by Re. 1."

Sir, time and again, members on this side of the House have tried to impress upon the members on the other side the inadequate control exercised by them over their subordinates. During the general discussion, I have had occasion to refer to the Health and Sanitary Departments and to stress the importance of promoting health and sanitation among the people. Sir, I believe it is accepted by the Health Department itself that the fight against the hook-worm disease is one of the important items in the programme of work of the Health Department; and the success of the work done by the department depends entirely on the field staff who are touring the country and doing propaganda among the people. My main object in bringing forward this motion is to bring to the attention of Government that the field staff of the Health Department do not discharge their functions properly. In this connection, I beg to bring to the attention of Government the experience that I have had, as a member of the Co-operative Enquiry Committee, on the 22nd and 23rd of June, when we were camping at the Moovattupuzha T. B. The field staff of the Hook-worm campaign were also staying in the T. B. with us. We had to stay in the T. B. for three or four days consecutively, and we had occasion to watch these people and the kind of work that they do. All these days, Sir, I can assure the House that these persons, the four gentlemen of the field staff of the Hook-worm Campaign party, were playing and chatting in the room in the T. B. next to the one occupied by us. They were not only not doing their work, but they also made it extremely difficult for us to do any work, although we begged of them repeatedly not to disturb us.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Was it during day time?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Both day and night. And, I dare say one of the members on the other side of the House, Dr. Kunjan Pillai, will testify to my statement, because, when he was going through some files at about 11 o'clock at night, he could not bear the disturbance on account of this field staff and he begged of them to go to sleep and not disturb him in his work.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): Did the committee bring this to the notice of the authorities concerned?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): We have stated all this in our remarks in the T. B. diary.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Am I to understand from the member that these field staffs should not have any relaxation in the evening after their day's hard work ?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*) : I say they did not for the major portion of time stir out of the building for two days. They did not do any field work.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : Is the member sure that it was not a compensating holiday for the staff ?

PRESIDENT : Are you referring to this one instance alone under your motion ?

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): Yes, Sir.

PRESIDENT : Then, you are out of order.

Motions Nos. 211 to 214.

The following motions were not made :—

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

211. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,776 for establishment by Re 1.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN :

212. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,120 for salaries in the Vaccine Institute by Rs. 120.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI :

213. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,13,962 for Sanitation by Re. 1

MR T. K. ALEXANDER :

214. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,19,680 for Public Health and Sanitation by Re 1.

Motion No. 215

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): പബ്ലിക്ക് ഹെൽത്തിനും സാനിട്ടേഷനുംവകയ്ക്കു ചേത്തിരിക്കുന്ന ര,ഫ൯,൯൭൬൦ രൂപായിൽനിന്നും ഒരു രൂപാ കുറയ്ക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

ഈ നാട്ടിലെ അധഃകൃതർ ആരോഗ്യകരമല്ലാത്ത പരിതസ്ഥിതിയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലാണു താമസിച്ചുവരുന്നതെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനും മറ്റുള്ള എല്ലാവർക്കും അറിയാവുന്നതാണ്. പകർച്ചവ്യാധി ഉണ്ടാകുമ്പോൾ അധഃകൃതർക്കു സാനിട്ടറി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നുംമറ്റും വേണ്ടവിധത്തിലുള്ള സഹായസഹകരണങ്ങളും ലഭിക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ട് അനേകംപേർ പെട്ടെന്നുള്ള മരണത്തിനു് അധീനരാകുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇതിനെ പരിഹരിക്കുന്നതിനു അധഃകൃതർ താമസിച്ചുവരുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പബ്ലിക്ക് ഹെൽത്തുഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും ശുചീകരണവേലകൾ നടത്തി പകർച്ചവ്യാധികളെ തടയണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഉൽബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ നാട്ടിലെ എല്ലാ ജനങ്ങളുടേയും സുഖസൌകര്യങ്ങളെ നിലനിൽക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്ന സമുദായക്കാരാണ്

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

ഈ അധഃകൃതർ. ഇത്രത്തോളം പ്രാധാന്യം ഉള്ള ഒരു സമുദായത്തിന്റെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറും മറ്റു സമുദായങ്ങളും വേണ്ടിടത്തോളം ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിക്കാതിരിക്കുന്നതായാൽ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിയും ഐശ്വര്യവും താണുപോകുമെന്നുള്ളതിനു സംശയമില്ല. ഈ സമുദായത്തിലുള്ളവർക്ക് ആരോഗ്യപ്രദമായ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറുതന്നെ ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുത്തു് അവരെ താമസിപ്പിക്കുകയും അവരെ സംരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിനു വേണ്ട ചിലവു ഗവണ്മെൻറുതന്നെ വഹിക്കേണ്ടതാണെന്നുമുള്ള സംഗതി ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഈ നാട്ടിന്റെ എല്ലാ വിധത്തിലുള്ള അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കും നിദാനമായിരിക്കുന്ന അധഃകൃതസമുദായക്കാരുടെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണത്തിനായി അവർ താമസിച്ചുവരുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ശരിയായ സൂചീകരണപ്രവർത്തനം നടത്തി പകച്ചുവ്യാധി പിടിപെടാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറു പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിക്കണമെന്നു് അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അവതരിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): I support the motion. In doing so, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government that the depressed classes were once the rulers in the country and the real owners of the soil. As a result of various unfortunate circumstances, they have been reduced to their present pitiable condition. Therefore, they deserve special attention on the part of Government.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, the depressed classes require more than ordinary attention at the hands of the Public Health Department; because, their abodes are insanitary, they are mostly ignorant and their general vitality is very low. Small-pox, cholera and other epidemic disease invade their habitations much more easily than in the case of the general public. What they need first and foremost is public health education. I am glad to be able to state that, for the next year, there is a definite programme of public health education, especially for the depressed classes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether there is any objection to permit the members of the depressed classes to make use of all public wells and tanks in order to improve their condition?

PRESIDENT: That question does not arise.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a much larger question, and it is not connected with the present motion.

The Public Health Department is doing excellent work in the direction of public health education. The department is taking round, the various parts of the State, cinema and lantern shows and inviting people to see them, so that the people may see for themselves and realise the advantages of a clean life. Depressed classes are free to attend these very instructive shows; and, I believe, they *are* doing it even now.

As regards small pox, every effort will be made to do some intensive work in vaccination.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether, by attending these lantern lectures and cinema shows, their surroundings will improve?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The question of providing the depressed classes with sanitary dwellings is a much larger problem than the one we are now dealing with. Government can attend to that only gradually.

The depressed classes have the deep sympathy of the Government. And, as I said, the Public Health Department will certainly do some good work for the depressed classes, next year.

MR. N. JOHN JOSEPH (*Nominated*): അധഃകൃതരുടെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണവിഷയത്തിൽ കൂടുതൽ ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിച്ച് പബ്ലിക്ക് ലക്ചേർസുംമറും നടത്തി വേണ്ടവിധത്തിൽ അവരുടെ ആരോഗ്യത്തെ സംരക്ഷിക്കാമെന്നും കാളറാ, മസൂരി എന്നീ പകച്ചവ്യാധികൾ ഉണ്ടാകുമ്പോൾ അതിനു പെട്ടെന്നു നിവാരണമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യാമെന്നും അധഃകൃതർ താമസിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വേണ്ടവിധത്തിലുള്ള ശുചീകരണവേലകൾ നടത്തിക്കാമെന്നും ഗവൺമെൻറുഭാഗത്തുനിന്ന് അനുകമ്പാപൂർവ്വമായി സമ്മതിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതിനാൽ അധഃകൃതർക്കുവേണ്ടി ഞാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറിനോട് നന്ദി പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. അധഃകൃതരുടെയിടയിൽ മസൂരിമുതലായ പകർച്ചവ്യാധികൾ ഉണ്ടാകാതിരിക്കുന്നതിന് അവർക്കു വാക്സിനേഷൻ നടത്താമെന്നു ഗവൺമെൻറു മറുപടി പറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ അധഃകൃതരിൽപെട്ടവരെ വാക്സിനേഷൻ ക്ലാസിൽക്കൂടി ചേർത്ത് അവർക്ക് അഭ്യസനം നൽകണം. കഴിഞ്ഞ വാക്സിനേഷൻ ക്ലാസിൽ അധഃകൃതർക്കു പ്രോത്സാഹനം നൽകീട്ടില്ല. അധികം താമസിയാതെ ഒരു വാക്സിനേഷൻ ക്ലാസു തുടങ്ങുവാൻപോകുന്നു എന്നു കേൾക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. അതിൽ കൂടുതൽ ആളുകളെ അധഃകൃതരിൽനിന്ന് എടുത്ത് അവരെ ആ വിഷയത്തിൽ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കണമെന്ന് അഭ്യർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊണ്ടും അവരുടെ ആരോഗ്യസംരക്ഷണത്തിൽ ഗവൺമെൻറു പ്രദർശിപ്പിച്ച അനുകമ്പയ്ക്ക് ഒന്നുകൂടി നന്ദിപറഞ്ഞുകൊണ്ടും ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Motions 216 and 217.

The following motions were not made:—

MR K. MAHOMED:

216. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,19,680 for Public Health and Sanitation by Re. 1.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI:

217. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,19,680 for Public Health and Sanitation by Re. 1.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Motion No. 218.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,52,318 under Demand VIII by Re. 1.

Sir, it is found from the report of the Sanitary Department at page 25 that in point of mortality under small-pox Nedumangad stands second in the State. At page 26 of the same report it is stated that Quilon taluk was first affected with 317 deaths. Next came Nedumangad with 119 deaths. Next followed Vilavankod and so forth. At the same time the object of the Department as has been admitted in the report is to prevent the spread of the epidemics like small-pox and other diseases. But so far as the epidemic of small-pox is concerned, in Nedumangad taluk the major portion of the people has suffered in the pakuthies that I have mentioned already and it is highly essential in the interest of the sanitation of the places that I have mentioned and also to prevent the spread of epidemics like small-pox and other diseases that a conservancy town or circle under the Public Health Department may be started at Vamanapuram.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): I beg to second the motion.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Mr. S. J. Nair in moving this motion has brought to the notice of Government certain specific requirements relating to his constituency.

PRESIDENT: Dealing with a particular area is not in order generally.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government open conservancy stations according to the urgency of the need. The selection of the locality is made after an investigation of such urgency. During the last eight years, Government have opened fourteen major conservancy stations and nineteen minor conservancy stations. The opening of a conservancy station at Vamanapuram is being investigated by the Sanitary Circle Officer of the place. After he has investigated it, he will submit his report to the Head of his department and then it is for the Head of the department to consider the urgency of that station relatively to the urgency of other stations in the State. So, the opening of a conservancy station in Nedumangad will depend upon its comparative urgency.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the report of the Sanitary Department speaks about the urgency for the opening of a conservancy station at Vamanapuram?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That speaks of the whole of Nedumangad. It does not mean that the opening of a conservancy station at this particular place is going to reduce the mortality of the whole taluk.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the member how many conservancy stations there are in the whole of the Nedumangad taluk?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is a conservancy officer at Nedumangad. There is one station there now.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. K. George.]

If another is required, the question can be considered when it is placed before Government by the Public Health Department.

As for the appointment of additional vaccinators it is seen that there are four vaccinators, one at Nedumangad, one at Kattakada, one at Perukada and the last at Pirappancode. Next year there would be a large staff for conducting vaccination under the Public Health Department and I expect that Nedumangad would get some more attention in the matter of vaccination against small-pox.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*). Sir, in the light of the assurance given by the Chief Secretary that more attention would be given, and that the needful will be done in the matter, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

PRESIDENT: I put it that Demand VIII—Public Health and Sanitation for Rs. 2,52,318 minus Rs. 100 be granted.

The question was put and the grant was made.

DEMAND IX—POLICE.

MR. B. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Commissioner of Police*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 7,03,215 under Demand IX—Police.

Motion 219.

The following motion was not made :—

MR. P. K NARAYANA PILLAI :

"219 To reduce the allotment of Rs.12,500 for travelling allowances by Rs. 100."

Motion 220.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Sir, I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowances by Rs. 500.

The reasons for moving this reduction are :—

1. The Traffic Section in the Police Department be altogether abolished.
2. The rules framed by the Commissioner of Police regarding the motor vehicles be withdrawn.
3. The present method of double punishment meted out to the motor drivers, conductors and owners by the courts and by the Police Department be stopped.
4. The motor industry that provides employment to thousands of unemployed is not to be killed, but encouraged.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : I rise to a point of order. It is not a token cut that the member is moving.

PRESIDENT: The motion is a specific one to withdraw Rs. 500 from the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowances. The reasons given make it a token cut. The member can only move it by saying that the travelling allowance is insufficient or that there is too much money given for travelling allowance and that the money must be reduced.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : With the permission of the chair, may I amend it to a reduction by Re. 1 and move the motion Sir?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly